



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

REP. TULLIO LIBERATI

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

12:00 PM

Room 307, House Office Building

The House Committee on Government Operations was called to order by Chair Liberati.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Liberati, Pohutsky, McFall, Posthumus, Greene.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative McFall moved to adopt the meeting minutes from April 24, 2024. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HB 4838 before the committee:

HB 4838 (Rep. Tsernoglou)

A bill to amend 1969 PA 287, entitled "An act to regulate pet shops, animal control shelters, and animal protection shelters; to establish uniform procedures and minimum requirements for adoption of dogs, cats, and ferrets; and to prescribe penalties and civil fines and to provide remedies," by amending sections 1, 5a, and 10 (MCL 287.331, 287.335a, and 287.340), section 1 as amended by 2017 PA 84 and section 5a as amended by 2016 PA 392.

Representative Tsernoglou along with Collin McDonough and J. P. Goodwin, both representing the Humane Society of the United States, testified in support of HB 4838. Questions and discussion followed.

Alaina and Derrick Markel, owners of Petland Novi, testified in opposition of HB 4838. Questions and discussion followed.

Dr. Leslie Shoksnnyder, former Petland Novi veterinarian, testified in opposition of HB 4838.

Questions and discussion followed.

David Boelkes, owner of the Barking Boutique, testified in opposition of HB 4838.

Richard Martin and Dr. Rick Kirsten, both representing the Michigan Council for Animal Welfare, testified in opposition of HB 4838. Questions and discussion followed.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4838, but did not wish to speak:

Deborah Schutt, representing the Michigan Pet Alliance.
Natalie Palmer, representing herself.
Anne Armstrong, representing herself.
Carol Darby, representing herself.
Katie Auger, representing Serenity Canine Advocacy Rescue and Rehab.
Jim Freeman, representing CHAINED Inc..
Gina Berry, representing the Happy Paws Haven Co.
Steve Baker, representing the Berkley City Council.
Tiffany Perkins, representing the PAWS Friend Network.
Ann Griffin, representing Michigan Humane.

The following people submitted a card in opposition to HB 4838, but did not wish to speak:

Keith Shaffer, representing the Michigan Bear Hunters Association.
Bob Darden, representing the Michigan Pure Breed Dog Breeders.
Mike Thorman, representing the Michigan Hunting Dog Federation.
Amy Drumm, representing the Michigan Retailers Association.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4838, but due to the time constraints were unable to speak:

Lauren Dolega, representing herself.
Susan Gartland, representing herself.
Bee Friedlander, representing Attorneys for Animals.
Emily Scroggie, representing Bailing out Benji.
Dennis Hennen, representing himself.

The following person submitted a card in opposition to HB 4838, but due to the time constraints were unable to speak:

Kirbay Preuss, representing Preuss Pets.

The following person submitted a card with no position on HB 4838, but due to the time constraints were unable to speak:

Elizabeth Kunzelman, representing Petland Corporate.

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Liberati adjourned the meeting at 1:23 PM.

Representative Tullio Liberati, Chair

Legan Rose

Committee Clerk
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